

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 836

To amend the National Trails System Act to provide for a study of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (The Royal Road of the Interior Lands), and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 28 (legislative day, APRIL 19), 1993

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. DOMENICI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To amend the National Trails System Act to provide for a study of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (The Royal Road of the Interior Lands), and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “El Camino Real de  
5       Tierra Adentro Study Act of 1993”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds that—

1           (1) El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro was the  
2           primary route for nearly 300 years that was used by  
3           clergy, colonists, soldiers, Indians, officials, and  
4           trade caravans between Mexico and New Mexico;

5           (2) from the Spanish colonial period (1598–  
6           1821), through the Mexican national period (1821–  
7           1848), and through part of the United States Terri-  
8           torial period (1840–1912), El Camino Real de Tier-  
9           ra Adentro extended 1,800 miles from Mexico City  
10          through Chihuahua City, El Paso del Norte, and on  
11          to Santa Fe in northern New Mexico;

12          (3) the road was the first to be developed by  
13          Europeans in what is now the United States and for  
14          a time was one of the longest roads in North Amer-  
15          ica; and

16          (4) El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, until  
17          the arrival of the railroad in the 1880's, witnessed  
18          and stimulated great multi-cultural exchanges and  
19          the evolution of nations, peoples, and cultures.

20   **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF TRAIL.**

21          Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16  
22   U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
23   lowing new paragraph:

24               “(36)(A) El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro,  
25          the approximately 1,800 mile route extending from

1 Mexico City, Mexico, across the international border  
2 at El Paso, Texas, to Santa Fe, New Mexico.

3 “(B) The study shall—

4 “(i) examine changing routes within the  
5 general corridor;

6 “(ii) examine major connecting branch  
7 routes; and

8 “(iii) give due consideration to alternative  
9 name designations.

10 “(C) The study shall be done in cooperation  
11 with the Government of Mexico and shall provide  
12 for, as necessary, technical assistance to Mexico with  
13 the possible objective of establishing an international  
14 historic trail.”.

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